

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS: INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS SOVIET MISSION (DINNER
PARTY) APRIL 15, 1976 (SALT TWO-980)

1. (CHERNAY/PEREGUDOV-SALTYKOV, A-1276)

ICBM LAUNCHER CRITERIA

CHERNAY MENTIONED TO SALTYKOV AND PEREGUDOV THAT HIS INTERPRETATION
OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON ICBM LAUNCHER CRITERIA REQUIRED A
LAUNCHER NOT ONLY TO BE "SPECIALLY DEVELOPED" FOR AN ICBM BUT
DEPLOYED WITH AN ICBM AS WELL BEFORE THAT LAUNCHER WOULD BE
CONSIDERED AS AN ICBM LAUNCHER. CHERNAY ASKED HOW THE SOVIET
POSITION WOULD COVER A SITUATION WHERE A LAUNCHER WAS DEVELOPED
AND TESTED WITH AN ICBM BUT WAS DEPLOYED ONLY WITH MISSILES OTHER
THAT ICBMS--WOULD SUCH A LAUNCHER BE CONSIDERED AN ICBM LAUNCHER?
BOTH SOVIETS RESPONDED THAT IF A LAUNCHER WAS "SPECIALLY DEVELOPED"
AND CONSEQUENTLY TESTED WITH AN ICBM, THAT LAUNCHER WOULD "FOREVER
BE CONSIDERED AS AN ICBM LAUNCHER." PEREGUDOV SAID THE LAUNCHER
WOULD NOT COUNT IN THE AGGREGATE UNTIL IT WAS DEPLOYED, BUT NO MAT-

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TER WHAT KIND OF MISSILE IT WAS DEPLOYED WITH, SINCE IT WAS TEST-

ED WITH AN ICBM, IT WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS AN ICBM LAUNCHER.

2. (CHERNAY/BUDANTSEV-PEREGUDOV, A-1276)

ICBM LAUNCHER CRITERIA

IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH BUDANTSEV AND PEREGUDOV, CHERNAY ASKED WHETHER THE SOVIET POSITION IN DEFINING ICBM LAUNCHERS DID NOT IN FACT EMBODY OUR CRITERIA CONCEPT UNDER A DEFFERENT LANGUAGE. HE SAID THAT IT APPEARED THAT "TESTING" AS PART OF DEVELOPMENT AS OUTLINED IN THEIR POSITION MIGHT BE EQUATED TO OUR CRITERION OF "A LAUNCHER THAT HAS LAUNCHED AN ICBM IS AN ICBM LAUNCHER"; WHEREAS THEIR TERM "DEPLOYED" MIGHT BE EQUATED TO OUR OTHER CRITERION OF "A LAUNCHER THAT HAS CONTAINED AN ICBM IS AN ICBM LAUNCHER." BOTH DUDANTSEV AND PEREGUDOV HEARTILY AGREED AND SAID ENTHUSIASTICALLY THAT THAT WAS EXACTLY WHAT THEY INTENDED. PEREGUDOV SAID IN ORDER TO INDICATE THE LINKAGE BETWEEN OUR TWO APPROACHES THE SOVIETS SPECIFICALLY EMPHASIZED "TESTING" IN THEIR RECENT PLENARY STATEMENT WHICH ELEBORATED ON THEIR POSITION (SEMENOV'S 7 APRIL STATEMENT, SALT TWO-966).

3. (CHERNAY/SALTYKOV, A-1276)

POST-BOOST VEHICLE

SALTYKOV EXPRESSED IN STRONG TERMS THAT THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT HAVE A MISSILE THAT HAS A POST-BOOST VEHICLE (PBV) WITH A SINGLE RV. HE SAID THAT AFTER THE TRUSOV-BELETSKY-ROWNY CONVERSATION OF 14 APRIL (A-1271), TRUSOV CAME TO HIM AND THE OTHER EXPERTS WANTING TO KNOW WHAT GENERAL ROWNY WAS TALKING ABOUT WHEN HE MENTIONED A MISSILE HAVING A PBV AND A SINGLE RV. SALTYKOV SAID HE AND THE OTHER SOVIET EXPERTS CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT SUCH A SYSTEM EITHER EXISTS OR IS UNDER DEVELOPMENT. CHERNAY TRIED TO EXPLAIN TO SALTYKOV THAT POSSIBLY "PBS" OR "ABR" (SOVIET ACRONYM FOR A DEVICE SIMILAR TO OUR POST-BOOST VEHICLE) WAS NOT THE PROPER TERM. HE SAID THE POINT WE WERE MAKING IS THAT WHATEVER THE DEVICE IS CALLED THAT DROVE THE SINGLE RV SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE COMPUTATION OF THROW-WEIGHT. SALTYKOV REFUSED TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE BEYOND HIS CATEGORICAL DENIAL THAT SUCH A SYSTEM EXISTS. JOHNSON

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